



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

July 30, 2010

Uma S. Ahluwalia
Director

Dear Montgomery County Food Service Facility Owner:

On November 17, 2009, the Montgomery County Council, sitting as the Board of Health, adopted Resolution 16-1194 requiring certain eating and drinking establishments to post nutrition information on all menus and menu boards. The resolution became effective on July 1, 2010.

On July 20, 2010, the Montgomery County Council, sitting as the Board of Health, passed Expedited Bill 39-10 providing eating and drinking establishments with implementation guidance.

Resolution 16-1194 requires eating and drinking establishments that operate 20 or more locations in the United States and doing business under the same trade name (regardless of individual ownership) while offering substantially the same menu items to post:

1. The number of Calories for any standardized menu item on each menu or menu board;
2. A statement regarding the suggested daily caloric intake;
3. A statement regarding the availability of additional nutrition information in written form when requested by a consumer.

Please refer to the attached resolution, regulation, and compliance guidelines for more information about the menu labeling requirements. Additional information can also be obtained by contacting the Office of Licensure & Regulatory Services at 240-777-3986.

Important Implementation Dates: According to Expedited Bill 39-10, by September 15, 2010, all facilities subject to Resolution 16-1194 must submit to the Department an implementation plan. As part of the plan, the facility must identify a date by which the establishment will comply with County Code, Chapter 15, Section 15-15A. Any facility subject to Section 15-15A must fully comply with the requirements of that section by January 1, 2011. Plans should be submitted in writing to Licensure and Regulatory Services, 255 Rockville Pike, Suite 100, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

Please note also that as part of recent federal health care reform legislation Section 4205, Nutritional Labeling of Standard Menu Items at Chain Restaurants was enacted and federal regulations will be forthcoming in the next year. Local regulations were constructed to follow as closely as possible proposed federal laws. We will continue to monitor the development of federal regulations and notify you of any possible preemption issues and changes to the regulations.

Sincerely,

Uma S. Ahluwalia
Director

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Attachments

Office of the Director